

if you were to read it, it might be of some service to you.

“As to your advice, that it would be better for us to look after our sheep, and mind our concerns at home, than to trouble our heads about reading, is a kind of advice I most certainly shall never take. I shall indeed mind my business; but then I and my dear Florella will continue to read as often as we have an opportunity, without asking the leave of any rich man’s son.

“It is too often the misfortune of rich children, (continued Amintor) to be very idle and indolent, and too lazy properly to attend to their books. As they therefore know themselves to be very ignorant, they cannot bear the thoughts that poor people should be wiser than themselves; for wisdom is the fountain of happiness, and ignorance is a delusive dream.”

This solid manner of reasoning put the frothy little Simpson into a passion, and he came up to Amintor, threatening to take the book from him; but Amintor advised him not to attempt any thing of that kind, unless he first convinced him, that he had more courage, and was stronger than he was. He advised Master Simpson to recollect, that though the one was rich and the other poor, yet every one had a right to defend his own property, and that he certainly should to the last.

Master Simpson was sadly angry, first to find, that a poor shepherd’s boy was so much wiser than himself, and in the next place, that he had not the courage to put his threats into execution. He went home in a pet, and told his mama with what contempt he had been treated by the poor Amintor. Lady Simpson was highly enraged to think that a poor shepherd’s boy should dare to insult her dear